

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
see form PCT/ISA/220

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/ZA2005/000009

International filing date (day/month/year)
02.02.2005

Priority date (day/month/year)
18.02.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
A01K91/02, B63B35/14, B63C7/08

Applicant
BARRETT, Clive Vernon

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY****Box No. I Basis of the opinion**

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - ☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 - ☐ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 - ☐ in written format
 - ☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 - ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
 - ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/ZA2005/000009

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43*bis*.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------|
| Novelty (N) | Yes: Claims | 1-30 |
| | No: Claims | 31 |
| Inventive step (IS) | Yes: Claims | 1-30 |
| | No: Claims | 31 |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Yes: Claims | 1-30 |
| | No: Claims | 31 |

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V.

1) Closest state of the art.

Document US 4856222 describes a "floatable vessel" (which at the same time is a bait boat) including a weighted keel having a depth below the waterline substantially greater than the height of the deck above the waterline and a self-righting mechanism, in the event of the vessel capsizing or partially capsizing, the force of the water on the keel acts to right the vessel.

2) Problem.

The known bait(!) boats have insufficient self-righting capacity when deployed at sea and were thusfar only deployable on lakes.

3) Solution.

To add an additional self-righting mechanism in the shape of a lightweight float mounted at the end of a elongated element which is attached to the deck of the vessel. This additional feature is generally known (see FR 2551420), but the additional feature of a *flexible* elongated element being attached to a *biasing means* on the deck is not known and considered to be inventive.

4) Conclusions.

There is no indication to assume that one can come to the present invention with the relevant documents of the search report.

The independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2-30 therefore meet the requirements of Art. 33(2) & (3) PCT.

Claim 31 does not meet the requirements of Rule 6.2 (a) PCT.